



Arizona Criminal Justice Commission

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Department of Public Safety

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VACANT
County Sheriff

VACANT
Chief of Police

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Arizona Criminal Justice Commission Announces New Funding Allocation for Crime Victims Across the State ***\$1.2M allocation from the American Rescue Plan Act***

Phoenix, AZ, Wednesday, September 15, 2021 - Today, the Arizona Criminal Justice Commission (ACJC) announced that the state's Victim Compensation and Assistance fund received a one-time allocation of American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding in the amount of \$1.2M to stabilize the state's safety net for crime victims and provide critical resources to one of Arizona's most vulnerable populations.

"Protecting vulnerable Arizonans and their families is a top priority," said Governor Ducey. "We must do more to ensure they are protected and secure — and today's investment will help those affected by crime access much-needed resources and services."

These funds could assist approximately 400 claimants for economic loss directly resulting from criminally injurious conduct and are incredibly vital to Arizona crime victims. The Victim Compensation program can cover out-of-pocket expenses for medical or dental needs, mental health counseling, funeral and burial costs, lost wages/loss of support, crime scene clean-up, and some transportation costs.

"The Arizona Criminal Justice Commission is committed to providing financial assistance to survivors of crime and strengthening our services to better support their families during very difficult times," stated ACJC Chairwoman and Yavapai County Attorney Sheila Polk. "Thank you to Governor Ducey for investing in crime victims and providing critical resources to those Arizona families in their time of crisis."

Prior to 1986, there were very few options for victims to receive restitution and re-coup any costs related to the crimes against them or their families. In an effort to help victims, the Legislature established the Crime Victim Compensation and Assistance Fund, which the Arizona Criminal Justice Commission administers.

"Arizona, through its Victim Compensation Program, has made a commitment to help provide a critical safety net for our citizens who have been victims of crime and are experiencing a financial hardship as a result of their victimization," stated ACJC Executive Director Andrew T. LeFevre. "ACJC is grateful to Governor Ducey for prioritizing victims in the State of Arizona and for providing this additional funding to allow the state to fulfill its commitment and stand by our citizens during their time of greatest need."

[Governor Ducey Invests \\$1.2 Million To Support Vulnerable Arizonans | Office of the Arizona Governor \(azgovernor.gov\)](https://www.azgovernor.gov)

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Our mission is to continuously address, improve, sustain and enhance public safety in the State of Arizona through the coordination, cohesiveness, and effectiveness of the Criminal Justice System

